

<b>Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/618,939	FULPER, ROBERT R.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Darren W. Ark	3643

**All Participants:**

**Status of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Darren W. Ark. (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

(2) Sean A. Kaufhold. (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Date of Interview:** 28 July 2004

**Time:** 5:00pm EST

**Type of Interview:**

Telephonic  
 Video Conference  
 Personal (Copy given to:  Applicant  Applicant's representative)

**Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated:**  Yes  No

If Yes, provide a brief description: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Part I.**

**Rejection(s) discussed:**

*Rejections in the Non-Final Action mailed 3/9/04*

**Claims discussed:**

1, 3-6

**Prior art documents discussed:**

*Prior art of record including Phipps '175 & 639*

**Part II.**

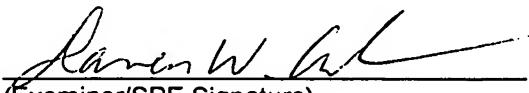
**SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:**

*See Continuation Sheet*

**Part III.**

It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.  
 It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

**DARREN W. ARK**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

  
(Examiner/SPE Signature)

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: Examiner indicated to applicant that claims 1, 3 would remain rejected by Cafarella in view of Smith since it is maintained that claims 1, 3 remain rejected by Cafarella in view of Smith since it is obvious to fashion a signal device out of many materials including those as taught by Smith that are capable of floating in water. Also Examiner directed applicant's attention to patents to Phipps 5,669,175 and 5,515,639 which disclose fish strike indicators which will float if dropped into the water. The Examiner proposed incorporating claim 4 into claim 1 to make claim 1 allowable while Claims 5 and 6 are allowed. The Examiner indicated to applicant that Examiner agreed with applicant's arguments regarding Mulchintock and that it does not disclose the tether as claimed wherein the term "tether" is defined as "1. A rope, chain, or halter..." Mulchintock discloses the ring member (3), loop (2), and a clip (1) to enable the indicator to be attached to a fishing rod, but does not disclose the tether as claimed. The Examiner also agreed with applicant's arguments that Cunningham does not disclose a loop being positioned on an outer circumference of the ring member since the first end of the tether (48 in Fig. 5) of Cunningham is embedded or molded into the weight means (42). Please see Examiner's Amendment for details.